The currently anticipated outlay during the 8th Plan is Rs. 12,938.78 crores and the resource gap after taking into account multinational/bilateral external funding, external commercial borrowing and internal resources, is estimated to be Rs. 5,335.73 crores.

(c) Government has been providing Gross Budgetory Support to NTPC for implementation of the on-going projects. Besides, Government has also been recovering the over dues of SEBs to NTPC from the central plan assistance, and providing to NTPC.

(d) In view of (c) above, does not arise.

Grants for Power Supply to the Farmers in Gujarat

1539. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to provide grants for the supply of power to the farmers in Gujarat for operating their irrigation pumps;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have fixed any targets in this regard during the year 1993-94; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) to (d) There is no proposal under consideration of the Union Government to provide grants for supply of Power to the farmers in Gujarat for operating their irrigation pumpsets.

Committee on Incearsing Electricity Rates

1540. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have constituted a committee to give suggestions on increasing the rates of electricity in various States and to allow private sector to participate in the functioning of the State Electricity Boards;

(b) if so, the terms of reference of the committee and what are the suggestions made by the Committee;

(c) whether Government propose to implement these suggestions in Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat; and

(d) by when the committee is likely to submit its report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Planning Commission has notified NDC Committee on Power on 3-6-1993 to suggest measures to improve the health of State Electricity Boards inter alia by tariff changes. Private participation in generation & distribution is permitted at present and some SEBs are taking advantage of this.

(b) The terms of reference of the Committee are as under:—

(i) to review the factors which have contributed to technical and managerial inefficiencies of the power utilities in the State leading to increased costs and inefficiencies in the supply of electricity to different categories of consumers and recommend measures to minimise the unit cost of electricity supply to consumers;

(ii) to review the electricity tariff structure in the States and recommend a set of national norms for implementation to make the state power utilities economically viable and enable them to generate adequate internal resources for financing their future capital expansion programmes for meeting the increasing demand for electricity in different parts of the country;

(iii) to review the institutional and financial structure of the State power utilities and recommend necessary changes including, inter-alia, the need to delink distribution from generation and the need to involve the consumers in the